

Equality and Diversity Council Meeting Paper

20th January 2016

Inclusion Health Subgroup

Purpose and context

The subgroup has a vision to tackle health inequalities and advance equality for all. Its purpose is to assist the shaping of the future of the NHS from an equality, health inequalities and human rights perspective, working to improve equity of access to services and improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged groups, people with Lived Experience of stark inequalities and those with protected characteristics, by 2017. The establishment of the subgroup was proposed as part of the EDC Review in April 2015.

The subgroup reports to the EDC. A core membership has been identified and a wider virtual reference group is to be established. The chairs are NHS England (Ruth Passman) CQC (Lucy Wilkinson) and on a rotational basis, lived experience members of the subgroup. Draft terms of reference have been agreed.

Work programme

The group has established a work plan as agreed by EDC July 2015 comprising of the three key elements below. The group are now in the process of refining the detailed actions and have commenced delivery also.

1. Ensuring people with lived experience have a voice throughout the Equality and Diversity Council and an influence in all its work.
2. Working to improve equity of access to services and improved outcomes for protected groups and people with lived experience of stark inequalities by 2017 (the “Quick Wins” programme).
3. Strengthen workforce and organisational capability for identifying and addressing Equality and Health Inequalities impacts across EDC member organisations.

Actions taken to date

1) Increasing the influence of people with lived experience in the work of the EDC

- The subgroup supported 2 'Lived Experience' members of the group to deliver a presentation about Inclusion Health and lived experience at the October EDC meeting
- Sub group members made a presentation on the inclusion health / lived experience sub group purpose and work programme to delegates involved in the health inequalities field visit from Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England to Greater Manchester.
- The subgroup embeds increasing the influence of people with lived experience across its work, e.g. the "Quick Wins" questionnaire (see below) includes options for EDC action that would increase the influence of people with lived experience e.g. through peer support and user-driven commissioning.
- The work supporting people with lived experience to have a voice builds on work in the last quarter, e.g. at NHS Expo.

2) The "Quick Wins" programme to reduce some of the starkest inequalities:

- The subgroup has been looking at the priority areas identified in the EDC workplan (access to care for refugees and asylum seekers, gypsies and travellers and disabled people) to identify: a) priorities within these wider areas, b) underlying causes of the inequality and c) potential actions that the EDC could take to address these causes.
- The subgroup has sent out a Survey Monkey questionnaire to EDC members and DH Strategic partners - to gather views on causes and potential EDC actions from the whole EDC membership and from organisations in close contact with people with lived experience of inequality. The analysis of this survey has now been completed to contribute to a paper about the programme, including recommendations, which will be circulated to EDC before the January meeting.

3) Supporting capability for Identifying and addressing equality and health inequalities

- Working group to look at this established. Proposal to link in with NHS England capability training programme for Equality and Health Inequalities Impact analyses which is being tendered for in New Year.

4) Developing subgroup membership: Department of Health, Public Health England and the Equality and Human Rights Commission have been asked to join the subgroup.

Recommendation and action requested

EDC to note the activity undertaken by the group.

Other EDC subgroups discuss with the IH subgroup with their plans for involving people with lived experience in their subgroups

Ruth Passman and Lucy Wilkinson
On behalf of the Inclusion Health Subgroup
December 2015

[Members of the Inclusion Health Subgroup are: Ruth Passman (NHS England) and Lucy Wilkinson (CQC) (co-chairs); Permjeet Dhoot (NHS England), Bernd Sass (Disability Rights UK), Stan Burrige (Pathways), Jabeer Butt (Race Equality Foundation), Amir Hannan (Haughton Thornley Medical Centres), Clenton Farquharson (Healthwatch), Alastair Lipp (NHS England), Gail Elkington (DH), and Lived Experience members David O'Brien, Stewart Moors, Lynn Berry, Elham Atashkar, Iman Rafatmah.]